

## Look out for the Flora for Fauna symbol

There's a special symbol to help you find the right plants and other material needed to create your own Flora for Fauna garden. Look out for this label at your local garden centre.



## Visit our website

The Flora for Fauna website is full of great information to help you succeed at this exciting gardening project. It is an interesting, easy-to-navigate and interactive site that enables you to:

- Find out all about the Flora for Fauna program.
- Discover what wildlife you could attract to your garden.
- Find out how to create the right habitat including what to plant, other things to do and what not to do.
- Learn where to get even more information.

[www.floraforfauna.com.au](http://www.floraforfauna.com.au)

## Local information

For information on the plants best suited to your area, ask at your garden centre or contact your local Council.

*Imagine a garden filled with dappled sun and shade, beautiful colours and textures, varied scents and abundant life in the form of fluttering butterflies, lively birds, cheeky frogs and darting lizards.*

*Our native animals do not reside exclusively in the Australian bush – we share our cities and towns with many birds, butterflies, frogs and other fauna. These creatures are part of the web of life that makes Australia unique. But many of the species that make their home in our urban areas are in trouble. They are struggling to survive as they see their sources of food, water and shelter dwindle and, in some cases, disappear all together*

*It needn't be this way. We can help the fauna that lives on our doorstep by turning our gardens and backyards into natural havens. It's easy and fun and nature will thank you by providing a passing parade of delights, from birds in full song and lizards basking in the sunshine to butterflies of exquisite beauty and frog calls at dusk.*

*Every little bit helps – you can transform your whole garden into a wildlife oasis or simply plant a few native shrubs that will provide food and shelter for birds. You'll be playing your part in supporting Australia's unique native fauna.*

*Click on our website ([www.floraforfauna.com.au](http://www.floraforfauna.com.au)) for more information and visit your local garden centre for advice and assistance.*

*Start today and bring new life to your garden.*



## About the Flora for Fauna program

Flora for Fauna is an initiative of the Nursery & Garden Industry, Australia aimed at bringing new life to the gardens in our cities, towns and rural areas too. The nurseries and garden centres of Australia want to spread the message that Flora for Fauna gardens can be a joy to the people who create them as well as a life saver to the fauna that find sanctuary there. We will achieve this by providing simple and easy-to-implement ideas, supplemented by lots of practical local help and advice.

Flora for Fauna is supported by the Commonwealth Government, via its Natural Heritage Trust. The government believes this program is a strong step towards securing the biodiversity of the Australian habitat.



**Natural Heritage Trust**  
Helping Communities Helping Australia  
A Commonwealth Government Initiative



**Nursery & Garden Industry  
Australia**

For advice about your own Flora for Fauna garden ask at your local garden centre or look on the Flora for Fauna website:  
[www.floraforfauna.com.au](http://www.floraforfauna.com.au)

For more information about the Flora for Fauna program contact:  
[admin@floraforfauna.com.au](mailto:admin@floraforfauna.com.au)  
or  
**Flora for Fauna Manager**  
**Nursery and Garden Industry Australia**  
**PO Box 907, Epping NSW 1710**

# Bring your garden alive!



Create  
a home  
for native  
birds, butterflies  
and other fauna.

# Ideas for creating your own fauna friendly garden

A garden becomes fauna-friendly when it offers food, water, shelter, nesting material and protection from predators. Once you start thinking about how to incorporate these elements, you'll be surprised how easy it is to turn your garden, or even just a corner of it, into an urban haven.

Pick an area that is mostly quiet and does not get a lot of disturbance like regular lawn mowing or children's games.

Plant appropriate native trees, shrubs and grasses to attract and feed native birds. When planting try to recreate the different layers of vegetation found in the bush from the ground up. Your local garden centre can help you with the right plants for your area.

The seeds of eucalypts and wattles provide a tasty meal for many native birds such as rosellas and other parrots and cockatoos.

Create shelter and nesting sites for small native birds by planting clumps of dense prickly shrubs to make thickets. Ask your local garden centre for ideas.

Ensure there's a nesting site for birds either in a hollow of a medium or large tree or by providing a nest box especially designed for native birds.

Install a birdbath close to shrubs or trees to provide cover for the birds as they come and go. Make sure it is regularly filled so that it is a reliable and clean source of water.

To have butterflies, food plants for their caterpillar stage are essential. Check our website or ask at your garden centre, to find out which are needed for the butterflies in your area.

Attract birds, butterflies and native bees by planting bottlebrush, grevillea, banksias, correa and other plants that produce nectar. To ensure a year round food supply, choose a several different species that flower at different times.

Make hiding spots for lizards by using half buried stones, logs and mulch. Put them close to food sources (such as your compost bin).

Create sunning spots for lizards with flat exposed rocks or clusters of stones, protected from the wind. Don't disturb the natural environment by taking rocks from bushland.

Replace some of your open lawn with garden beds and cover with natural mulch (leaf litter and twigs). This saves water and provides homes for beetles and worms that in turn provide food for birds, lizards and other animals.

Many bushland weeds are plants that have escaped from gardens. They overrun native plants and destroy fauna habitats. So remove them from your garden. Garden centres can recommend beautiful Australian native plants as replacements. They will look just as good and help the environment too.

Create a frog friendly pond in your garden. Your local garden centre is able to provide everything you need to establish a water feature. Put it away from your bedrooms and your neighbours' houses as frogs can be noisy. Plant native plants that attract insects for frogs to eat and provide shelter in the form of damp mossy crevices of stones or bits of bark and reedy plants. If a pond isn't practical, keep one area of you garden moist – this will attract all manner of wildlife.

Favour natural pest control, as insecticides can harm beneficial insects as well as the pests they target.

Be extra careful with your cat or dog, as they will naturally prey on native fauna. Make sure your cat has bells on its collar and train your dog not to harass wildlife. If possible keep both of them indoors at night, and try to maintain at least one part of your garden as a pet-free zone where lizards can sun themselves safely.

Put a bench or hammock under and shady tree, a seat in a sunny spot or build a paved area for outdoor furniture and you've got a setting for relaxation and fun. Your fauna-friendly garden can be an escape from the hectic pace of modern living where you can surround yourself with the soothing sights and sounds of nature. At the same time it will be a wonderland of excitement and activity for inquisitive children. Enjoy!

## Taking care of unwelcome visitors

In attracting fauna to your garden you may from time to time end up with more than you bargained for – aggressive currawongs and noisy miners or possums in the roof for instance. These problems can be addressed and the harmonious balance restored in your garden. For information on how to deal with unwelcome visitors click on the Flora for Fauna website at [www.floraforfauna.com.au](http://www.floraforfauna.com.au).

